

## Notice to Physicians

### COMMUNITY PHARMACY-LED ANTICOAGULANT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The **Community Pharmacy-led Anticoagulant Management Services (CPAMS)** has been expanded to allow all residents of Nova Scotia to access the service at select pharmacies across the province. This service enables patients on warfarin to see a pharmacist for point-of-care INR testing and dosage adjustments. Physicians with patients on warfarin who may benefit from CPAMS are encouraged to refer patients to a participating pharmacy. Currently, 41 pharmacies in the province are offering the service with an additional 40 pharmacies expected in the spring of 2022. Pharmacies must complete a 12-week educational course and are responsible for any patient monitoring, technology, or testing materials that are required. **More information about the service, a list of pharmacies, and a referral form can be found on the Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia (PANS) website:** <https://pans.ns.ca/cpams>

As part of the expansion of coverage to allow more patients access to this service at a pharmacy, there is additional clarity for the monthly supervision of long-term anticoagulant therapy fee currently billed by physicians. Only one primary care professional per patient can be reimbursed for ongoing monthly warfarin management. Going forward, if a physician's patient is participating in CPAMS, the physician may only bill the management fee when they are specifically asked to consult with the pharmacy on the patient's case. This also applies to established patients who were part of the pilot project.

To assist with identifying patients who are participating in this program, a new health service code will be created for use when a patient is part of CPAMS and the physician has been contacted by the pharmacy for a consultation. Additional information related to this new health service code will be communicated in the March bulletin, in the interim 13.99C can be used for these services. Please ensure it is documented in the patient health record that a consult was requested by the pharmacy as well as the date the consult took place.